



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-2000

Memo for Record
N873 Ser U-020-98
11 May 1998

IN REPLY REFER TO
5510
Ser N87/8U656047
30 Apr 98

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

Subj: USS SCORPION AND USS THRESHER INFORMATION RELEASE

Encl: (1) Records regarding loss of USS SCORPION and USS THRESHER
(2) Redaction and Declassification guidelines

1. In recognition of the 30th and 35th anniversary of the losses of USS SCORPION (SSN-589) and USS THRESHER (SSN-593), the Navy has decided to review for potential declassification all information related to their loss and subsequent investigations. Wherever possible, this information will be declassified and made available to the public.
2. A review and prioritization of holdings at the Naval Archives, JAG, and within N873 has been conducted by personnel from within N87 and NAVSEA Reserve Units. The results of this review are detailed in enclosure (1).
3. Reserve components of N87 and NAVSEA will perform a review and redaction of this material in accordance with the guidelines set forth in enclosure (2). Material will be reviewed based on the priorities established within enclosure (1). Enclosure (1) is not all inclusive. Additional material identified as easily releasable or especially relevant to the loss of either submarine should also be identified for review. N873 is tasked with coordinating the actions of the reserve units in the performance of this task.
4. Final declassification authority for information regarding submarine operational matters is the Chief of Naval Operations (N87). Final declassification authority for Naval Nuclear Propulsion Information is the Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion.
5. Following declassification and release, N87 intends to release all information to the Naval Historical Center for archival purposes. As new records in other locations pertinent to the loss of THRESHER or SCORPION are identified, these records will be consolidated at the Naval Historical Center. The point of contact for this matter is LT (b) (6) N873C1, (b) (6)

(b) (6)

E. P. GIAMBASTIANI
Director
Submarine Warfare Division

Distribution

1. Chief of Naval Operations (N00, N09, OLA, N87, N873, CHINFO)
2. NAVSEA (08, 03)
3. COMSUBLANT (00, 46)
4. COMSUBPAC (00, 46)
5. Naval Historical Center
6. Commanding Officer, NR DSW N87 Detachment 106
7. Commanding Officer, NR NAVSEA Detachment 1101